

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

GRIEL ET AL.

APPLICATION NO: TO BE ASSIGNED

FILED: HEREWITH

FOR: CRYSTALLINE BETA-LACTAM INTERMEDIATE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:


Page 1, directly beneath the title; please insert the following paragraph -- This is a continuation of International Application No. PCT/EP 00/03941, filed May 3, 2000 --.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 10 and 11, line 1; delete "any one of claims 3 to 9" and replace with -- claim 3 --.

Respectfully submitted,

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## APPENDIX

### VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. A process according to ~~any one of~~ claim 3 ~~to 9~~ wherein a nitrile is acetonitrile.

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. A process according to ~~any one of~~ claim 3 ~~to 9~~ wherein a ketone is acetone.